

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 64

By Burchett

A RESOLUTION to honor the thirtieth anniversary of WIMZ Radio.

WHEREAS, locally owned and operated radio stations have been important community cultural institutions since the radio industry first began to gain a foothold in the early years of the twentieth century; the new medium brought local, national, and world events to listeners in a timely fashion and opened doors to music, sports, weather, and other features; and

WHEREAS, 103.5 WIMZ is one such vital station which for thirty years has provided its listeners with outstanding service; and

WHEREAS, WIMZ is a Knoxville-based, classic rock radio station with a broadcast area that reaches into southeastern Kentucky, southwestern Virginia, western North Carolina, north Georgia, and far northwest South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, originally known as WBIR-FM, the station had a country music format until 1979 when it switched to rock music; soon after the format change, the station changed its call letters to WIMZ and adopted the name "Rock 104"; and

WHEREAS, in 1983, the station updated its format by adding more heavy metal acts and playing music that curtailed the 1970s classic rock; they dropped the "Rock 104" slogan and began identifying the station simply as "103.5 WIMZ"; and

WHEREAS, WIMZ is broadcast from the WIMZ-FM Tower, also called the WBIR-TV mast, a 534-meter-high aerial mast for the transmission of FM stations and TV programs in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, when the tower was constructed in 1963, it was the tallest structure in the world; and

WHEREAS, over the past three decades, WIMZ-FM has provided countless hours of entertainment, news, and emergency broadcasting to thousands of listeners and has earned a hallowed place in the hearts of its fans; and

WHEREAS, the members of this legislative body wish to seize this opportunity to specially honor all of the workers and the team behind WIMZ Radio as they celebrate thirty years of broadcasting and service to their community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate WIMZ Radio on providing thirty years of outstanding broadcasting to their listeners in Knoxville and all over the Southeastern United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.